

THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

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Friday, November 26, 1936

WHO ELSE WILL CLOTHE A CHILD?

IT is called to the attention of this newspaper that dozens of boys and girls in the elementary grades of the local schools are in dire need of clothing.

Many kiddies are going to school in clothes that are thin and ragged, and with their shoe soles worn thin. Wintry weather is close upon us, and discomfort and suffering is in store for these boys and girls unless someone comes to their aid.

Finding similar conditions last fall, The Independent started a movement which resulted in a number of children being given warm and sufficient clothing. The Daily Independent would like to do the same thing this year.

George Haskett says he will take one youngster and fit him out from head to foot. But this will be but a drop in the bucket in relation to the actual need. Dozens of others must do likewise if the need is to be met. Who will be next? Who else will take one needy child and give him or her some decent clothing to wear to school this winter?

WHILE THIS NEWSPAPER REJOICES IN AND ADMIRES ELIZABETH CITY'S CULTURAL PROGRESS, IT CAN BUT DEPLORE THE CITY'S LACK OF A PROPER SENSE OF VALUES.

It was reported the other day that approximately 300 concert tickets, valued at \$3 each, have been sold locally by the Co-operative Concert Association. These tickets will entitle their holders to hear at least three concerts by famous sopranos, baritones, cellists, or what will you have. The editors of this newspaper are delighted to see Elizabeth City manifest such interest in higher class music. There are few persons more appreciative of good music than the editors of this newspaper. Yet, as much as they admire good music and desire to have more of it presented locally, they are inclined to deplore the state of affairs that permits the selling of 300 or more \$3 concert tickets here when the Red Cross has failed in its goal for the year, funds are lacking with which to start the proposed boys' club, and many local school boys and girls are going without proper nourishment and sufficient clothing.

Scores of those who willingly paid \$3 for concert tickets gave the Red Cross a measly \$1, if anything, and would plead poverty if asked to buy a pair of shoes for a poor boy or girl in the local schools.

This newspaper contends that cultural things should have their proper relation to other spiritual values. Let Elizabeth City hear its high class violinists and singers, if it can afford to hear them after looking out for the charity needs in its midst. But if it must choose between the two, let the music go hang and support the Red Cross and the underprivileged children of the town.

FEW CITIES OF ANY CONSIDERABLE AGE HAVE BEEN BUILT ACCORDING TO A PRE-CONCEIVED PLAN.

Most have grown up around a nucleus of early settlers at some strategic crossroads or waterfront site, gradually expanding to engulf adjacent farm lands.

Often, suburban farm owners anticipated the spread of population by sub-dividing their land, but too often with the idea of getting the greatest number of lots from a given acreage rather than with any thought to the new suburb's relation to the expanding community.

As a result, a time comes in the growth of every town when the necessities of modern traffic make it imperative that some semblance of order be brought out of chaos. Most cities have to do their city planning after the city is built.

The proposal to extend McMorris street north and south is but one indication that Elizabeth City has come to such a stage in its progress. Just one indication, for no doubt every citizen has his own pet idea of some change that could be made to expedite the flow of traffic, decrease its hazards or perhaps just to improve the looks of his town.

Here are just a few of the ideas which this newspaper has gleaned from their various proponents:

1. (a) Elizabeth street should be extended into Cedar, which at its far end should join

the Hertford highway. (b) A supplementary idea would have Elizabeth street split into a "Y" after crossing Road, the right-hand fork to join Parsonage street which would be extended through to the Newland highway on an air line.

2. A highway should be built parallel to the railroad, connecting the Road street entrance to the city with the Hertford highway at the Norfolk-Southern station, thereby allowing through traffic to skirt the city rather than pass through congested streets.

3. (a) A new bridge across Charles creek should be in line with Riverside avenue, which would enter Front street with a gentle curve, thereby eliminating the bad turn at Dog Corner. (b) A supplementary idea would establish a public dock on the river front adjacent to the bridge, a small-boat harbor inside the bridge.

4. The new building development back of Riverside should be connected with the old part of town by extending existing streets across Charles creek, high enough upstream for the War Department to permit fixed bridges or culverts.

Most of these proposals would entail the acquisition of property now privately owned and would incur considerable expense, and the condition of civic finances relegates the realization of any such schemes to the future. Yet plans for future improvements may be made in the present.

Without holding a brief for any of the above proposals, this newspaper believes that the time has come for the adoption as a definite objective, some comprehensive plan of civic improvement. A survey by some competent engineer who canvassed the situation as a whole, from the standpoint of present need and those of the predictable future, should produce a plan which could be adopted as a permanent policy of city government, and worked out over a period of years.

NewsBehind theNews

By PAUL MALLON

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BRAKES

Washington, Nov. 26.—Mild gloom hints are now coming from the anonymous official New Deal spokesmen. They have switched their feet from the accelerator to the brake.

Simultaneously, stock marketeers have been disturbed by Washington rumors. Most disturbing is the one that the president is against all stock trading, considers it gambling and will continue to punish it. This one probably grows out of the fact that SEC and FRB have been getting hard-boiled. Equally disturbing are the unsubstantial rumors that the capital gains tax will be altered. Then, on top of these two, they are reviving that old one about a war in Europe, which will upset things here.

Both the talk and the rumors are probably not as serious as they sound. The New Dealers are up against the problem of keeping a rising business situation from rising too fast and getting out of hand. They seem to be just talking it down instead of up, temporarily, for that laudable purpose.

PRICES

What disturbs THEM is that prices are going up, not stock market, but everything else. An official canvass shows that every major category of prices, except electrical equipment, has registered an increase since election.

The bureau of labor statistics has officially announced that wholesale commodity prices increased nearly one per cent during the single week of November 14. This is a tremendous lift for a broad price table which generally fluctuates in tenths of one per cent. It brought the general commodity price level to the highest point since 1926.

This level was two per cent above the same week last year. Farm products were up nearly ten per cent above a year ago; miscellaneous commodities nine per cent; foods off 1.6 per cent.

The extent of the increases in that one week was 2.5 per cent for semi-manufactured articles; food 1.1 per cent; finished products 0.6 per cent; industrial 2.3 per cent.

What the New Dealers are afraid of is that prices will go too high and curtail buying. But prices seem to be fairly well established so far on a basis of new buying demand, and there is some question whether they can be effectively checked either by hints, official talk or otherwise.

Note: Add to this the fact that the greatest Christmas business in history is expected; that the new tax bill is forcing corporation money into wages and dividends, which should stimulate spending, if not investment; that political bickering has been removed from the national picture; that businessmen are bent on co-operating with the New Deal even if it kills them; that popular psychology is now more buoyant.

CROP INSURANCE

The only people taking an interest in crop insurance at present are the wheat farmers in the so-called semi-arid regions. In those regions the farmers usually get only one or two good crops out of five, so they are naturally interested in insurance. Also, when they get a good crop, the price is low. They usually have no wheat when the price is high.

The AAA crowd seems to be resigned to trying the plan on wheat alone for the first year, realizing that these semi-arid farmers are probably the only ones who will join up to any great extent.

You hear very much less here about crop insurance since the campaign is over.

THE FIRST WEEK

"Have another toll, dear?"

"Yes, wife, they are delicious. Did you buy them all by yourself?"

FALL O' YEAR

The countryside is seared and gray.
The winding streams are all a-glaze
With thin-shelled ice—a wafer sheath—
That tells of coming colder days.

The cattle, sleek and fat and trim.
So warm within their stable walls.
On fodder from the silo's store
Are ruminating in their stalls.

The plowman now has left the field
Of roughened furrows, long and straight,
And in the lane the yearlings stand
With unkempt coats beside the gate.

The trees are bare and stark of leaf.
The groundhog soon will go to sleep;
The squirrel's larder's running o'er
With nuts he stored for winter's keep.

Belated migrants sortie down
Upon the sumach and the haw,
To feast before their southward trend.
Their feathers bunched by cold winds raw.

On distant tree a lone hawk sits
With watchful eye for mouse or mole,
Who, venturing forth for food or drink,
Does least expect disaster's dole.

An old crow, 'gainst a dull gray sky
Flies o'er the fields in mental fear
Of what his prospects are for food,
For he, too, knows it's fall o' year.

RALPH GORDON.

THE ONCE OVER

By H. I. PHILLIPS
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RIMES OF THE TIMES

General Franco
And his smile
I could dispense with
For a while—
And that goes double
For all Spain's trouble.

Our President
Is non-resident;
He's on a peace trip
On a battleship!

His speaking done
He'll return to Washington
Where a good scrap
Is always on tap.

Guy Tugwell has turned from the masses
To molasses;
The work is no neater
But it's sweeter.

When anything about bread
Is to be said,
He probably won't utter
A word about butter.

Germany recognizes the rebels,
And apprehension trembles;
To us it seems an art
To tell any two Spaniards apart.

Extra dividends galore
Are at the window, at the door;
They're at the skylights all about—
Even the screens can't keep 'em out.

There seems to be trouble in shipping.
The old-fashioned seamen are slipping;
You board a ship to sail away—
But find you haven't moved next day.

A terrible crimp has been put into cruising—
The seagulls report it all vastly confusing.
An Edison's a naval boss;
We'll be no longer at a loss;

When some one says we're weak for war
He can invent one fleet or more.
John Bull
Has his hands full;

If it ain't one thing, brother,
It's another;
Whom to recognize in Spain
Is causing almost as much pain
As the question, by golly,
Of recognizing Wally.

Old Gridiron Stuff

The Supreme Court upheld the New York state security law by a vote of 4 to 4. Both sides failed to kick the goal for the point after touchdown, we assume.

The office radical says that Messrs. Green and Wolf of the A. F. of L. are just a pair of suspenders.

Dr. Tugwell's leap out of the ointment and into the molasses barrel arouses our curiosity about the molasses business! Is there any good old-fashioned black molasses any more, the so-called New Orleans and Jamaica kind? And what's the maple syrup situation? All the maple syrup we get tastes like so much sweetened water.

Germany says the tanks used by the American army are old-fashioned and useless in combat. We only expect to use 'em for the movies, anyhow, Adolf.

And as Bryan used to say (and as any student of the alcoholic trend will repeat), in case of war a million tanks would spring to the rescue in this country overnight.

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THREE INJURED IN RIOTING IN PARIS

Paris, Nov. 26.—(U.P.)—Three persons were seriously injured today when 50 striking employees of the Delaporte Electrical Company battled 20 strikebreakers.

TODAY'S RADIO PROGRAM

NBC-WEAF RED NETWORK

5:30—Jack Armstrong's Skeleto—bas.
6:45—Irma Green, Organ—ch.
6:50—Maurice Tates, Reading.
6:55—News; Norman Quartet—east.
6:58—Pro-Radio News Period.
6:59—Jack Heller and His Song.
6:45—Top Hatters Dance Band—ch.
7:00—Amos 'n' Andy—east only.
7:15—Charles Ezra Radio Station.
7:20—Edwin C. Hill Comment.
7:45—Robert Gately, Baritone.
8:00—Jessica Dragonette—e. to c.
9:00—Walrus by Abe Lyman.
9:30—Court of Human Relations.
10:00—First Nighter Drama—e. to c.
10:30—Red Grange on Football.
10:45—Four Showmen in Songs.
11:00—Back of the News—east; Amos 'n' Andy—repeat for west.
11:15—Phil Levant's Orchestra.
11:30—Glen Gray and Orchestra.
12:00—F. Henderson Orchestra.
12:30—To be announced.
12:45—Louis Pasteur Orchestra.

CBS-WABC NETWORK

5:30—Jack Master—east.
5:45—Wilderness Road, Serial.
6:00—Buddy Clark and Baritone.
6:15—Bobby Benson, Skit—east; Ed House and Organ—Dixie.
6:30—Pro-Radio News Period.
6:35—Three Aces from Detroit.
6:45—Routings of the Mount.
7:00—Martini Good, Skit—east.
7:15—Popeye's Skeleto—bas.; Russell Durr, Baritone—Dixie.
7:30—Louise Cook Parson—east.
7:45—Babe Carter's Comment.
8:00—The Broadway Varieties.
8:30—Andre Kostelanetz Dance.
9:00—Hollywood Hotel—e. to c.
10:00—Philadelphia Symphony.
10:30—To be announced.
10:45—Gigo de Eye Song Dramatic.
11:00—George Olsen and Orchestra.
11:30—Eddie Duchin and Orchestra.
12:00—Guy Lombardo Orchestra.
12:30—Jack Schuler and Orchestra.

NBC-WJZ BLUE NETWORK

5:30—Adriatic Variety Show.
5:30—The Singing Lady—east.
5:45—Flying Time Allotment.
6:00—Lynn and Abner—east only.
6:15—Songs by Midge Williams.
6:30—Pro-Radio News—bas.
6:35—The Revelers—WJZ only; to be announced—ch.
6:45—Lowell Thomas—east.
7:00—Mary Sully's Song Program.
7:15—Songs by Tony Russell.
7:30—Lynn and Abner—east only.
7:45—Ralph Aubrey—WJZ; Jean Dinkin—Song Program—ch.
8:00—Home Ruler Brand—east coast.
8:15—Singing Sam Songs—bas.
8:30—Death Valley Days, Play.
9:00—Fred Waring's Orchestra.
9:30—The Texaco Stars—e. to c.
10:00—Shep Fields and Orchestra.
10:30—Vivian della Chiesa, song.
10:45—Ella Schallert, Movies.
11:00—Henry House Orchestra.
11:15—Jinx Spots Quartet—east.
11:30—News; E. Coleman track.
12:00—Shandor with His Violin.
12:05—Dancing Music, Orchestra.
12:30—Riley and Pa-y Orchestra.

WTAR—780 Kilocycles

7:00—Musical Calendar.
7:05—News, Radio—bas.
8:05—Safety Flash.
8:05—Time Service.
8:30—Betty Crocker.
9:00—One Minute Drama.
9:05—Church of the Air.
9:15—Breakfast Club—NBC.
10:00—Program Roundup.
10:05—Health Drama.
10:15—Green and De Rose—NBC.
10:45—Women in the News, Windsor R. Harris.
10:50—Josh Higgins—NBC.
10:55—Today's Children—NBC.
11:00—Musical Tidbits.
11:05—DK Reporter.
11:15—Three Majors—NBC.
11:30—Voice of Weather, J. J. Murphy.
12:00—Allegation Time Signal—NBC.
12:05—Radio Luncheon Club.
12:25—News Report.
12:30—Farm and Home Hour—NBC.
1:30—Vanguard, De Lash—NBC.
1:45—Dot & Will—NBC.
2:00—Forward Industry—NBC.
2:05—Pepper Young's Family—NBC.
2:15—Mr. Gray, Mr. Perkins—NBC.
3:30—Golden Jubilee.
3:45—Dorothy Drosin—NBC.
4:00—NBC Radio Girls—NBC.
5:00—Air Breaks—NBC.
5:30—Ann Jane Safety Club.
5:45—Little Orphan Annie—NBC.
6:00—Music Box Memories.
6:15—Program Resume.
6:17—Midge Williams—NBC.

Former Brooklyn Cops Runs Amuck In the Miami Jail

Miami Beach, Fla., Nov. 26.—(U.P.)—Using a knife, crudely fashioned from a tobacco tin, Daniel J. McGowan, 52, husky former Brooklyn, N. Y., policeman, ran amok in city jail tonight and slashed two attendants.

The attack occurred as radio technician W. F. Hamilton brought a Thanksgiving Day turkey dinner into his cell. McGowan, who is a six-footer, leaped from his cot and gashed Hamilton's neck, barely missing the jugular vein.

Al Hakam, city jailer, went to Hamilton's aid and was slashed on the face before McGowan was subdued. McGowan, who had retired from the New York police force after 28 years service, had been vacationing here.

ASLEEP ON HIS FEET



Babson Thinks There Are Only Four Million Jobless In America At This Time

Warns Against Being Fooled by Unemployment Figures and Says Boom Times Are Already Here

Babson Park, Mass., Nov. 26. 1936 — Business news seldom crashes the front pages for weeks at a time. The post-election boom, however, is so spectacular that it is making headlines daily. The nation is agog, amazed, by a tidal wave of dividend increases, wage boosts and year-end bonuses. Business has moved ahead to a new recovery peak. The sharp swing upward is bringing in a flood of questions about the outlook for business, stocks, unemployment, and wages. Those people who are accustomed to good things coming the hard way are wondering if this sudden burst of optimism is sound and basic.

Basic Trend Sound
Fundamentally, this post-election boom is justified from a long-pull standpoint. Business hit its low early in 1933 and for nearly four years we have been struggling upward. In the interim, business has been sub-normal but our population has been growing. People have had to be fed, clothed, and transported. During that dreary period we neither produced nor bought enough goods to meet our needs. For a long time consumption ran ahead of production. Demand in the meanwhile has been slowly improving. Gradually people have come to realize that the nation is on the upgrade.

During the past three months there has been a great improvement in public sentiment. The average American today is convinced that we are swinging into a real boom. Statistics appear to back up this opinion. Business has reached the X-Y Normal Line

on my Babsonchart on the way into a prosperity period for the first time in fourteen years. The tide is with us. Not only are we being aided by the normal growth of American business (which averages nearly two per cent per year) but we also have the added impetus of a big potential demand built up by five years of sub-normal satisfaction. The coming era of good times may even at some time, though temporarily, exceed the 1929 peak.

Stocks Not Short Sale
This post-election boom also has investors worried. The current fever of optimism, of course, has ignited Wall Street. Stocks are today 30 per cent higher than last year. Prices have had a sharp spurt since the election. People who bought months ago are wondering if they should now take profits; others who have been timidly holding their cash liquid are wondering if they have missed the boat. These investors who are in doubt about the long-swing have lost their perspective. I can not recall any recovery period when the market reached its peak with business only at the Normal Line. We are not yet in an era of business over-expansion and the trend is still basically favorable.

Furthermore, those who do want to accept their profits hesitate to do so because of the reinvestment problem. Money rates are still ridiculously low. Bonds yielding 3 to 3 1/2 per cent interest may turn out to be just as dangerous as may stocks selling at a high price-earnings ratio. Good mortgage loans are hard to get. Bank deposits return little or no yield. Meanwhile the cost of living is steadily rising. Hence, I see no reason why investors would now want to unload their stocks of companies whose earnings are progressing satisfactorily. Easy money rates are a strong market factor; so long as they prevail, I am not worried about stocks being so high as to offer a good short sale yet.

De Not Be Fooled by "Unemployment" Figures
Another question which is bothering more and more people in view of sharply improving business is the unemployment and relief problem. The Administration is planning to take a complete and accurate census of the "unemployed." All through the depression business observers have been troubled by the lack of reliable jobless figures. Various estimates are made from time to time but these are simply guesses. Currently, they range around eight million. Even though the forthcoming census may support this estimate, I will not be satisfied. In taking this census, I feel that labor experts are overlooking a very fundamental point. While a census should be made, it should be of the employed as well as the unemployed.

The Department of Labor has fairly accurate figures on the

number of employed at various periods in the past. If we compare these totals with our population figures we will get a fair per-capita-employment average. I take an unemployment census, however, there will be no past figures for comparative purposes. The fact that eight million jobless today does not necessarily mean that our percentage of unemployed is greater than it was twenty years ago. Hence, while it is important that we should take a periodic census of the unemployed as well as of the employed, nevertheless the Administration should not base its read and other policies entirely on the jobless figures.

Wage Issue Up Again

Furthermore, the answer as to who constitutes a "jobless worker" has changed in recent years. Today millions of young people and old folks would want to be called as unemployed by the census taker. Twenty years ago these people would have been considered simply as "at home." If for no other reason than this, I believe that the coming unemployment census will be of little benefit except to political sharpshooters. What the public authorities really need to know is the total number of people who would, in good times be employed but who now have no jobs. Frankly, if we could get reliable totals on such genuine unemployed, I would not be surprised to find them running closer to four million than to eight million.

Still another question which the current boom has pulled into the limelight is the wage issue. I am in full agreement with the Administration's aim to emphasize the total annual income of the worker rather than his hourly or daily wage rate. Hence, those who should be taken care of right now are the part-time or seasonal workers whose pay is out of line. Full-time employees should not be too impatient about higher pay. Naturally if business improves further and if the cost of living continues to rise steadily, then sweeping wage changes must be made all along the line. Moreover with a very bullish holiday trade outlook, the chances of such business improvement are very good.

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WOMAN CONVICTED

Lillingham, Nov. 26.—(U.P.)—Conviction of second degree murder charges late today in the slaying of her prosperous farmer husband resulted in a prison sentence of 10 to 15 years for Mrs. Furman E. Godwin.

Counsel for the comely, thrice-married widow gave notice of appeal. Bond was set at \$5,000.

RAW FURS WANTED—Mini Raccoon, Muskrat, Opossum, etc. Top market prices. Spot cash. W. C. Glover.

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